GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
DEFENCE
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:4898
ANSWERED ON:24.08.2000
INCOMPLETE TRAINING BY DEFENCE ACADEMY DEHRADUN
VIJAY GOEL

Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) the veracity of the news item appeared in some of the media reports that in order to fill the gap of shortage of officers in Indian Army the National Defence Academy, Dehradun, finished the training of its trainees before the stipulated time;

(b) the estimated shortage of officers in each of the three wings of Armed Forces as on date and the main factors attributed thereto;

(c) whether it is adversely affecting the defence capability of Indian Army; and

(d) the remedial steps being taken by the Government to meet the situation?

Answer

MINISTER OF DEFENCE (SHRI GEORGE FERNANDES)

(a) to (d): A statement is attached.

STATEMENT REFERRED TO IN REPLY TO PARTS (a) TO (d) OF LOK SABHA UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 4898 FO 24.8.2000

In order to meet the present shortage of officers in the Army, the training period at the Indian Military Academy, Dehradun, has been reduced for a period of two years with effect from 01.01.2000 to 31.12.2001 as under:

Kind of Entry into IMA	Earlier Training Period	Revised Training Period
Direct Entry	18 Months	12 Months
Ex NDA	12 Months	06 Months
Ex Army Cadet Corps	12 Months	06 Months

2. Presently, there is a shortage of 12853, 1068 and 591 officers in the Army, Navy and Air Force respectively which could possibly affect the overall capability of the Indian Armed Forces. The shortage of officers could be attributed to various factors such as the extremely arduous nature of the career, early retirement age, disparity in pay vis-Ã -vis the private sector etc.

3. The following steps are being taken to overcome the shortage of officers:

(a) Reduction in the training period at Indian Military Academy, Dehradun.

(b) Increase in the training capacities of the Indian Military Academy, Dehradun, National Defence Academy, Pune, and Officers' training Academy, Chennai.

(c) Continuation of an image projection campaign through the mass media in order to induce recruitment of officers into the Armed Forces.